

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A tripod ~~[[1]]~~ having a tripod top ~~[[3]]~~, at least one tripod leg ~~(2) consisting of~~ comprising at least three telescopically guided segments ~~[[5, 6, 7]]~~ for length adjustment, and a fixing device for fixing the adjusted length of the tripod leg ~~[[2]]~~, characterized in that the fixing device is actuated by rotation of the middle segment ~~[[6]]~~ relative to the first segment ~~[[5]]~~ facing the tripod top ~~[[3]]~~, and the third segment ~~[[7]]~~ facing away from the tripod top ~~[[3]]~~ is disposed rotationally fast relative to the middle segment ~~[[6]]~~, rotation of said fixing device fixes the adjusted length of both the second and third segments.

2. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to claim 1, characterized in that a turning handle ~~[[46]]~~ is pivotally mounted on the first segment ~~[[5]]~~ to act on the middle segment ~~[[6]]~~ in rotationally fast fashion.

3. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to claim 2, characterized in that the turning handle ~~[[46]]~~ is disposed on the end of the first segment ~~[[5]]~~ facing away from the tripod top ~~[[3]]~~.

4. (Previously Presented) A tripod according to claim 1, characterized in that the fixing device is formed as a clamping device.

5. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to claim 4, characterized in that the clamping device has a rod ~~[[8]]~~ guided rotationally fast in the first segment ~~[[5]]~~ and disposed rotatably in the middle and third segments ~~[[6, 7]]~~, and ~~[[a]]~~ at least one slide ~~[[13, 14]]~~ rotationally fast and axially displaceable on the rod ~~[[8]]~~ for engaging at least one clamping element with the inside of at least one of the first at least three segments ~~[[5]]~~ upon rotation of the middle segment ~~[[6]]~~ relative to the first segment ~~[[5]]~~ in one direction, and disengaging it therefrom upon rotation in the reverse direction.

6. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to claim 5, characterized in that the at least one clamping element ~~acting on the inside of the first segment (5)~~ is disposed on the rod ~~[[8]]~~ and acts on the inside of the first segment.

7. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to claim 5, characterized in that the at least one clamping element ~~acting on the inside of the middle segment (6)~~ is disposed on the end of the third segment ~~[[7]]~~ facing the tripod top ~~[[3]]~~ and acts on the inside of the middle segment.

8. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to claim 5, characterized in that the at least one clamping element has a surface ~~[[28a, 28b, 29a, 29b]]~~ extending obliquely to the longitudinal axis ~~[[27]]~~ of the tripod leg ~~[[2]]~~ and acted on by the slide ~~[[13, 14]]~~.

9. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to claim 8, characterized in that the at least one slide ~~[[13, 14]]~~ is loaded toward the oblique surface ~~[[28a, 28b, 29a, 29b]]~~ with a spring ~~[[31, 32]]~~.

10. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to claim 5, characterized in that the at least one slide ~~[[13, 14]]~~ has a surface facing the tripod top ~~[[3]]~~, and the middle segment ~~[[6]]~~ and the third segment ~~[[7]]~~ have an abutment surface ~~[[39, 40]]~~ loaded by the spring ~~[[31, 32]]~~ against the surface on the slide ~~[[13, 14]]~~, the surface on the slide ~~[[13, 14]]~~ and/or the abutment surface ~~[[39, 40]]~~ being formed as a cam surface ~~[[37, 38]]~~ oblique to the longitudinal axis ~~[[27]]~~ of the tripod leg.

11. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to claim 5, characterized in that the at least one clamping element is loaded out of the engaged position by a return spring ~~[[55, 56]]~~.

12. (Currently Amended) A tripod ~~according to claim 5, characterized in that the clamping element is formed as a~~ having a tripod top, at least one tripod leg comprising at least three telescopically guided segments for length adjustment, and a clamping device for fixing the adjusted length of the tripod leg, characterized in that the clamping device is actuated by rotation of the middle segment relative to the first

segment facing the tripod top, and the third segment facing away from the tripod top is disposed rotationally fast relative to the middle segment, wherein the clamping device has a rod guided rotationally fast in the first segment and disposed rotatably in the middle and third segments, and a slide rotationally fast and axially displaceable on the rod for engaging at least one lever [(18-21)] with the inside of at least one of the at least three segments upon rotation of the middle segment relative to the first segment in one direction, and disengaging it therefrom upon rotation in the reverse direction.

13. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to claim 12, characterized in that the lever [(18, 19)] acting on the inside of the first segment [(5)] is linked to the rod [(8)].

14. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to claim 13, characterized in that the lever [(18, 19)] is linked to the end of the rod [(8)] facing the tripod top [(3)].

15. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to claim 12, characterized in that the lever [(20, 21)] acting on the inside of the middle segment [(6)] is linked to the third segment [(7)].

16. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to claim 12, characterized in that at least one lever [(18, 19; 20, 21)] adapted to be spread apart acts on the inside of the first segment [(5)] and/or the middle segment [(6)] in each case.

17. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to claim 11, characterized in that the return spring [(55, 56)] connects the two levers [(18, 19; 20, 21)].

18. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to claim 5, characterized in that the at least one slide [(13, 14)] is formed as a sheath displaceable on the rod [(8)].

19. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to [[,]] claim 1, characterized in that at least one of the end of the middle segment [(6)] and the end of the third segment [(7)] facing the tripod top [(3)] has an end cap [(33, 24)].

20. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to claim 10, characterized in that the abutment surface [(39, 40)] is provided in the end cap [(33, 24)].

21. (Currently Amended) A tripod according to claim 10, characterized in that the spring [(31, 32)] loading the at least one slide[(s)] [(13, 14)] is supported on the end cap [(33, 24)].

22. (New) A tripod according to claim 5, characterized in that the at least two slides includes a first slide and a second slide, wherein, upon said rotation of the middle segment, the first slide engages a first clamping element with the inside of the first segment and the second slide engages a second clamping element with the inside of the middle segment.

23. (New) A tripod, comprising:

a tripod top;

at least one tripod leg having at least three telescopingly guided segments including a first segment adjacent said tripod top, a middle segment and a third segment rotationally fast relative to said middle segment; and

a fixing device for fixing the adjusted length of said at least one tripod leg, said fixing device actuated by rotation of said middle segment which fixes the adjusted length of the middle segment and the third segment.